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DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

LONDON, HONGKONG AND AMOY.

AGENTS FOR
DR. PAUL'S MANICURE SPECIALITIES.

"CERAMINE" for tinting finger tips, face, and lips, per pot \$1.
"POUDRE LUSTRALE" gives a brilliant shell-like transparency to the nails, per box \$1.
"EMERY BOARDS" for bevelling the rough edges of the nails after use of the file, etc. 50.
"ORANGE WOOD STICKS." A valuable novelty introduced in Dr. Paul's system of Manicure to apply the "Cleansing Fluid" under the free margin of nails and thus avoid the danger of scratching with steel instruments, etc. 50.
"NAIL 'OLEATE'" preserves and gives a brilliant polish to the nails and prevents hangnails, etc. 50.
"CLEANSING FLUID" instantly removes all stains from the surface and underneath the nails, per pot \$1.

(Telephone No. 60.)

Not 23 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong, 20th July, 1891.



BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)
HONGKONG.

WE invite attention to the following old lauded Brands, all of which are of excellent quality and good value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

On ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per Case.	Per Bot.
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule	\$10	\$1.00
B. Vintage, Superior quality, Red Capsule	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule ..	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled)	18	1.50

SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule	6	0.60
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule	7.50	0.75
C. Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule	10	1.00
CC. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule	10	1.00
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule	10	1.00
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled)	14	1.50

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule	\$4	\$4.50
B. St. Estephe, Red Capsule ..	4.50	5.00
C. St. Julien	7	7.50
D. La Rose	11	12.00

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule	\$12	\$1.10
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule	14	1.25
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule	18	1.50
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1872 Vintage, Red Capsule	24	2.00

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Capsule ..	8	10.75
B. Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
C. Watson's Abouloir-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
D. Watson's H. K. D. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule ..	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule ..	12	1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule	8	0.75
B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule	10	1.00
C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule	12	1.10
G. J. BOURBON WHISKY, faceted, Red Capsule, with Name ..	10	1.00

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule ..	4.50	0.40
B. Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule	4.50	0.40
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva	5.25	0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule	12	1.00
Good Lecward Island	\$1.50	per Gallon.

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine	Maraschino
Curaçao	Herrings Cherry Cordial
Chartreuse	Dr. Slegers' Angostura Bitters, &c.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY

REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

DEATH.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 21st July, 1891, ALEXANDER FRANKSON, late 2nd Engineer steamship *Kwiyang*, aged 30 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph.
HONGKONG, MONDAY, JULY 27, 1891.

WHAT is wrong with the moral atmosphere of Hongkong? Certainly there is a radical difference between the principles or influences acknowledged as humanizing in most civilized portions of the globe, and those existent amongst a section of this community. Hardly a single measure is brought forward in Council without exhibiting indecent haste, and rude if not insolent and domineering treatment at the hands of the Executive. This in itself is sufficiently lamentable, if it were not that we are at the same time called upon to witness everywhere grievous indications of disorganization and disunity prevailing in political and social circles, while this condition of affairs is accentuated by commercial depression, almost unparalleled, the result of errors of omission and commission only too patent. The Government administration is a picture we have frequently been called upon to delineate of late; our great financial institutions have had an unusual share in the general troubles and trials, and as for Mining, Planting and Industrial undertakings, if they have not suffered total collapse in many instances they have shaved the line closely, and are already on its verge; and, as a climax, that influential class in our midst which is generally supposed to enjoy an immunity from such troubles, through the protection given them by his Satanic Majesty, has apparently had him in its midst, creating havoc and confusion unprecedented in the ranks of his own brigade. Petitions and counter-petitions to the Home Government fill the air with complaints and dissatisfaction, and altogether the Colony appears to be unbalanced. The perversion of mind which induced some 247 residents to sign a petition to annul the Sunday Labour Bill is an instance in point of this curious indication of mental aberration. A law has been passed and become as much the law of this colony as any other on the Statute Books; that law, essentially politic and just, viewed from whatever standpoint, is now sought to be repealed by a minute section of 247 persons in this colony, chiefly composed of those who have no interest in the matter one way or the other, and whose signatures were obtained, we regret to have to say, in a very questionable and objectionable manner by an American gentleman who had less interest in the matter than anyone of the signatories, and whose instincts and training (if he has not lost all appreciation of the institutions of his own country) should have alone prevented him from taking the part he did in this question. This comes with more force, because by the last mail from the United States we observe that the best employers of labour in America have come to the conclusion from experience, purely on physical and hygienic grounds, that it is more advantageous and profitable to them, while paying their employees their Sunday's wage, to insist on an *entire cessation of work*, as they find they obtain actually better results from six days' work with one day's rest. This is only in keeping with the practical conclusion the intelligent thought of the age has arrived at. In regard to the Petition itself the technical point raised in the commencement of it affords the Petitioners the one standpoint upon which they were entitled to raise an objection, but that is about all. The arguments are specious and misleading throughout, and the best answer to it will be from the Chinese community itself, which is almost unanimous in opinion upon the question of the advisability of the measure. The whole subject has been very ably treated by our evening contemporary in its Saturday's issue, and it is a satisfaction for once to be able to agree with the *China Mail*. We are entirely at one with our contemporary's views on this matter, and can only deplore that many able and prominent citizens should permit their usually calm and intelligent judgments to become so warped as to advocate a measure completely at variance with all intelligent and liberal instincts of a civilization and humanity common to all.

TELEGRAMS.

EXECUTIONS BY ELECTRICITY.

New York, July 7th.
Four persons convicted and sentenced to death for murder were executed by electricity this morning.

A SHIP ON FIRE AT SEA.

LONDON, July 7th.
Advice received here to-day state that the barque *Compadre*, from Calcutta bound for Chili, took fire whilst on the voyage; the vessel was headed for the New Zealand coast and run ashore. The crew suffered great privations for one hundred days, but were ultimately rescued by a sealer.

THE ARMY.

July 16th.
The Commander in Chief has decided to suppress the Orange lodges in the Army.

PARLIAMENT.

The *Times* is of opinion that the dissolving of Parliament will probably take place next year and that Sir William Harcourt will be the Liberal leader when Mr. Gladstone retires.

RUSSIAN PAPERS ORACULAR.

July 24th.
The Russian Press considers the visit of the French Squadron to Constantinople an indication of lasting friendship between France and Russia.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Korean Government issued their new coinage on the 28th ult.

The returns of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ending July 26th, are:—Europeans 151, Chinese 2,033; total 2,184.

We are informed by the agent of the Messageries Maritimes that the Company's steamer *Djemnah*, with the next French mail, left Saigon for this port, at 7 a.m. yesterday.

A BATCH of fifty eight Australian horses arrived in Singapore on the 18th, and amongst them there were some excellent ponies. Twenty five of the mob are for Penang.

SATURDAY'S *Gazette* notifies that the Officer Administering the Government has recognized the appointment of Mr. J. W. Walker as Vice and Deputy Consul for the United States.

We regret to hear by the *Kwongkee* that cholera has broken out in Shanghai, and that three Europeans were attacked and died of this fearful disease within a few hours of the steamer's departure. The event is causing a general exodus to Chefoo and Japan.

ADVICES from Shanghai indicate that the enterprise firm of The Hall & Holt Co., Ltd. have absorbed another live concern there, to the general public satisfaction, having purchased the extensive concern of Messrs. Cottam and Rawlinson, of Kiangsi Road.

THE *Phang* *Gazette*, in view of the rumoured withdrawal of the garrison from that town, suggests the raising of a volunteer light infantry force there, as otherwise the lives and goods of the citizens would depend upon "that broken reed," the native Police Force.

JOHN L. SULLIVAN has sailed for Australia, and was to have opened in "Honest Hearts and Willing Hands," at some Sydney theatre on July 25th. Consequently the cables about a match with Slavin are all flummery. J. L. is under contract not to fight in Australia.

The military force sent against the Achinese marauding band in Upper Deli have come upon the enemy. In the engagement that ensued the Achinese got the worst of it with the loss of two killed and many wounded. The "enemy" fled into the jungle where it was impracticable to follow them up.

TIGERS would seem to be on the increase in Singapore. Recently a man walking in the Fongoi district with four dogs had three of them seized and carried away by these animals. Some days ago, adds the *Strait Times*, another tiger was seen about the fifth mile stone on the Thompson Road.

THE *Batavia Nieuwsblad* says that the petroleum found so abundantly in Langkat on the east coast of Sumatra, though of excellent quality, contains such large quantities of easily inflammable gases, that working the wells there gives rise to many difficulties from the oil so readily catching fire.

THE *Bangkok Times* learns that it has been decided by Government to sanction the expenditure necessary for building a light-house on the ten-foot rock at the entrance of the Koh-Si-Chang harbour. Mr. Grassi, we hear, now at the Brighton of Siam preparing plans and specifications for the work.

THE sun gives 600,000 times as much light as the full moon, 1,000,000 times as much as the brightest star in the sky, and 35,000 times as much as all the stars in the heavens combined. In size the sun equals 1,300,000 earths, but owing to its smaller density its weight equals only 300,000 earths.

THE Chinese fleet has been royally entertained at Yokohama, and in return Admiral Ting treated the residents of that port to an At Home on his flagship last week, when many Foreign and Japanese notables were present. The Admiral and some of his officers have been received in audience by the Emperor.

As was fully expected a big audience turned up at the City Hall on Saturday night to witness the production of Offenbach's famous "La Fille du Tambour Major" by the Willard Opera Company. The performance could hardly be classed as an artistic success, but nevertheless the audience seemed perfectly satisfied. To-night the "Arabian Nights" will be put on.

We hear that after the recent typhoon over fifty junk-people were rescued by two Chinese Customs cruisers near Fuh-tai-chau, in the Lyee-mun Pass, a considerable number being drowned. During the storm a disabled junk that was drifting down the Pass was boarded by the crew of another junk, who, instead of rendering help, stripped the helpless craft and cleared out.

THE *N. C. Daily News* learns from a private but reliable source in Hankow that the Viceroy, in response to the energetic representations of H.M. Consul, Mr. Chris. Gardner, has ordered the Wusueh case to be re-opened, in order that the rioters, and especially those who assaulted the ladies and children, may be dealt with more satisfactorily. This has obliged H.M.S. *Archer* to await the arrival of a relief.

We learn that the managing director of the ill-fated "Marina" venture contemplates promoting another concern, under the style of the "China Contracts Company," with the object of taking over the stock and goodwill of the Maribank Furniture Co. Mr. W. J. Hancock proposes to manage the concern personally. Maribankers are not exactly an El Dorado at present, but we fancy that the transfer of the concern to this visionary "Company" will be about the last straw.

THE Chinese schooner *Kia Mot Lee*, trading under the Dutch flag, left Singapore on the 12th inst. with fifty-six coolies *ex Falkenberg* for Pontianak. On the voyage cholera broke out and the Captain put about and returned to Singapore on the 17th with two corpses on board. Dr. H. O. Reardon visited the ship and had the bodies removed for interment to St. John's, whither the schooner went under sail this morning. In connection with recent deaths of coolies from cholera, which is supposed to have been brought here by the steamer *Namchow*, an instant summons has been issued against the Captain of that vessel, which was expected to arrive in Singapore on the 18th. It is intended, says the *Strait Times*, to go into the whole circumstances of the number and the cause of the deaths, and whether they were fully and correctly reported at the Shipping Office.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Monday the 3rd August being a bank holiday, it will also be observed as such in the Government Department.

WHO wouldn't visit Japan, when twenty dollars for a return ticket from Shanghai to Nippon is the figure charged by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

THE agents (Messrs. Carlowitz & Co.) inform us that the Navigazione Generale Italiana steamer *Blagno*, from Bombay, left Singapore for this port yesterday, and may be expected on or about the 1st prox.

OUR Canton correspondent advises us that the *Amoy*, in coming up the Macao reach on Friday to her moorings off Shamone, grounded for some hours on the Honam spit. Fortunately it was low tide and she got off without damage.

Dr. Dobrock reports to-day that yesterday afternoon he issued the following notice:—A small typhoon appears to have crossed the southern Philippines and entered the China Sea. Barometer falling. Gradients slight. Weather clear, hot, and dry.

Or the gamblers who will not take the precaution to go to Kowloon, nor call their gambling "share transactions," a fair number was collected by the police during Saturday and Sunday, for exhibition in the police court to-day. Three \$25 fines, one whipping, about a dozen \$5 cases, and some small forfeitures resulted.

THE Band of the A. & S. Highlanders will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess to-morrow, commencing at 8 p.m.:—

Overture, "Tutu" Mozart.
Selection, "The Grandioso" Walsefeld.
Selection, "Daria" Calder.
Romance, "Rose Tree" Walsefeld.
Fantasia, "Maritima" Walsefeld.

MR. H. E. Golding, full private in the Royal Marine Light Infantry, walked into the Seamen's Club yesterday evening, about the time he should have been at church, and began chasing the servants about and throwing the furniture after them. In the police court to-day he was ordered to pay \$2 fine and \$2 compensation for a billiard-marker's head which he had injured.

HONGKONG is apparently not the only place in the East suffering from commercial depression, for we learn from the *Bangkok Gazette* that trade in Siam is going from bad to worse, and only three steamers are running at present on the Singapore line. Two steamers of the Hongkong line left this week to fill up in Saigon, and three others are said to be employed between China, Saigon and Java.

THE *Mercury* gathers from native sources that the Shanghai Magistrate, Yuan, has telegraphed to Lord Li, Cukyoan all the particulars of the killing of a Chinaman in the City by three Japanese students. Lord Li seems to have considered the affair very important, and has sent an interpreter to Mr. Lo, Tse Ming to check the interpreter engaged on the other side. According to the 13th Clause of the Treaty between China and Japan, when a subject of either of the two countries is caught in the act of slaying a subject of the other, the case is to be at once tried, and if the slayer is found guilty of murder he is to be executed.

At the Magistrate to-day Nicol Auld and James H.M. private in the A. & S. Highlanders, were charged with stealing \$5 from Henry Harrison, seaman on the barque *Kitty*. The prosecutor said he was drunk on Saturday night, while in company with the prisoners, and went to various places with them. When they left him he missed over \$5. P.C. Green, who watched the three together on the Praya, said he saw the soldiers put their hands in the sailor's pocket. They then went away in rickshaws. Witness asked the prosecutor if he had lost anything, and the man said he had been robbed of some money. The constable then followed the two soldiers, and searched them, but found no money on them. The case was remanded.

THE *Namchow*, concerning whose crowd of passengers from Amoy and Swatow we published some particulars in our Saturday's issue, arrived at Singapore on the 18th on her return from Penang. To meet the *Namchow*, says the *Free Press*, just as it was getting dark, Chief Inspector Jennings and Mr. Reardon, Health Officer, went off in a launch, and the vessel was immediately ordered into quarantine. It was discovered that on the way down from Penang the third engineer, Mr. Peter McEldan, who joined the ship in Singapore, had died of cholera. Means were taken to completely isolate the vessel, some longjacks, laden with coal, which seemed intended for her, were soon dispatched shorewards, and the vessel placed under surveillance. Mr. McEldan died on Friday and was buried off Pulau Pisang. Certain information was obtained from the Captain and officers by the Police, which leads us to believe that the statements published by us last week are substantially correct. As the Captain is to be proceeded against in the Police Court, under the Penal Code, the interests of justice demand a cautious silence. We may say, however, that the authorities are fully alive to the gravity of the case, and are taking every possible means to check the mischief already done and bring to justice those responsible for it.

THE *Shenpai* reports that while nine prisoners were being taken from Chiohkiang to the Tantu district *yam* for trial, one of them, a minor official, leaped overboard while crossing the river, and was drowned. All efforts to pick him up were fruitless. The matter was reported to the magistrate, he being stated that the said prisoner was rendered temporarily insane, by an attack of fits from which he always suffered, and it was while in this state that he committed suicide. The magistrate, however, ordered the guards to be remanded pending an investigation, which was held in due course when the following facts were revealed. The deceased was a native of Kiangsu and an expectant magistrate in Anhui. For over twenty years he waited for an appointment but it never came. Lately his conclusion was left him without saying good bye. Leave was granted him to look for her, and the faithful one was found in Shanghai. The pair took a native house-boat to make the return journey. Anchoring at Chiohkiang before crossing the river, the deceased went on shore to purchase some necessities. Retracing his steps to where he had left the boat he discovered that the woman had ordered the boat to sail for Nanjing, thus again eluding him and taking along with her his money, valuables and personal effects. The blow was a terrible one. For days he wandered aimlessly, talking to every one he met in an incoherent manner. During a lull interval he went to the magistrate's *yam* to ask assistance for the recapture of the fair one. The magistrate was ill and could not see him in person, whereupon he grew violent. To pacify him the assistant magistrate received him. His mind again gave way, and after smashing everything in the parlour he attacked the assistant magistrate. After great difficulty he was secured by the united efforts of a dozen men, and with the sanction of the magistrate was placed on him to keep him quiet. When he was again taken to the Tantu *yam* across the river he put an end to his own life by jumping into the water while the guards were looking after others.

SIX men have been arrested and charged with being members of the Kelao Hui, by the Customs Tatal of Chiohkiang. The names of the accused were given by the constable of the Tantu magistrate's *yam*, who was arrested by order of H.E. the Viceroy. He was offered a pardon in case he turned State's evidence. He acknowledged his previous connection with the society but urged that he had since reformed.

News from Europe that the beet root crop there this year is unusually heavy and looks promising; has had a depressing effect on the sugar market in east Java where planters look forward in consequence to a less remunerative season. Planters there have also to contend against another disadvantage arising from a scarcity of copper change which they require for paying coolies' wages. The money changers profit by it by charging high commission.

A REPORT is current amongst the Chinese at Shanghai that the Wenchow Authorities have succeeded in capturing 11 of the pirates who recently created such a scare at that port. Six of the desperadoes were captured on the 8th of the present moon and the remaining five on the following day, some being taken in the country and the others in the native hotels in the town. Three of them have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment, their fellows, who would appear to be more prominent members of the piratical gang, being sent for further trial.

THE service at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd at Singapore on the 19th inst. was interrupted in a somewhat peculiar manner, the principal figure in a group representing Christ receiving baptism at the hands of St. John the Baptist, falling to pieces. This was a surprise to the congregation in more ways than one. The group had looked like a good specimen of statuary, and some of the oldest communicants had never suspected it to be anything but stone. It turns out to be of wood painted white, and the collapse was due to the depredations of an army of white ants.

SOME further details of the wreck of the *Tamamara* are published by the *Hochi*, in the form of a telegram received by the Government from the Governor of Amoy-ken. The message states there were 320 labourers on board the *Tamamara* when she was sunk by the *Sankichi-maru*, and that 200 are missing, the fate of many of them being still unknown. The Captain, Chief Officer and about 60 of the labourers had been landed at Nukuyama. About 200 of the missing people were natives of Amoy-ken. The steamer *Kotomaru* had gone to the scene of the wreck, to search for bodies in the sunken vessel. Kencho officials had also gone to Fukuyama to make investigations.

THE *Singapore Free Press* gives the following particulars of a rather hot brush between armed Chinese robbers and the local police on the 17th inst. Having information of an intended gang-robbery that night at an isolated tenement between the 3d and 4th mile stones on the Serangoon Road, Mr. Cusuden and Detective Inspector Porteous, accompanied by Sergeant Black, and a small contingent of policemen, proceeded to the spot, and lay in wait in that neighbourhood for the approach of the gang. True to the information afforded, the gang of Chinese robbers, armed variously with weapons of offence, came on the scene and attacked the house of a well-to-do Chinaman, who were soon surrounded. A determined conflict ensued, during which several shots were exchanged between the Police and robbers, with the result that one of the gang was killed. Six arrests were made, a creditable record considering the success of recent gang-robberies. No property was carried away by the men who effected their escape.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.
(Before Mr. E. J. Akeroyd, Acting Puisne.)
July 27th.

SEMPER PARTEM.

THE Court was again occupied to-day with the second case of Tang A Lok's will. The arguments turned on the admissibility of some of the evidence which had been given at the trial on the tomb's purporting to show parts of the family genealogy. Mr. Francis last week asked that this evidence be struck out of his Lordship's notes.

Mr. Leach addressed the Court, urging that this Court could not strike out evidence once given without objection. Only a higher Court could strike it out. This Court could only accept the evidence as it had been delivered, and consider its validity in giving judgment on the whole suit.

Mr. Robinson then began to talk.

THE SUNDAY LABOR PETITION.

WHY PEOPLE SIGNED.

The wave of indignation that has swept across the Colony since the publication of the signatures to the petition against the Sunday Cargo-working Ordinance is by no means subsiding. We have carefully compared the names with those attached to the one which the Rev. A. G. Goldsmith got up in 1888. The latter had the names of nearly 60 captains, officers, and engineers, and about 60 shipping clerks and Wharf and Dock employees. Among those shipping clerks were Messrs. R. Shewan, E. S. Wheeler, W. Poate, M. Beati, J. J. Harland, and R. P. Diploe—all of whom have just signed a petition for the abrogation of the measure they desired to much three years ago!

The Rev. A. G. Goldsmith, in the course of a conversation with a *Telegraph* reporter this morning, pointed out that over 100 of the signatories of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's petition were shopkeepers—men whose interests were not in the least affected by the new Ordinance. The agents of the P. and O. Company, Messageries Maritimes, and Indo-China S. N. Co. had not signed for those Companies; the Dock Co.'s manager was the only one in that concern who signed; not one of the Wharf and Godown Company's staff had done so; Lloyd's Surveyor and other marine Surveyors had declined, and in point of fact the very people most affected by the Ordinance had stood aloof. With respect to the petition itself, he said, paragraphs 14 and 19 were particularly weak. The former urged that 200,000 Chinese here had no Sunday, and had never had one, and didn't want one. If that argument were extended we might as well not have a Chinese Consul but a Chinese Government here; if we unchristianised Western civilisation was a mere figure of speech. As Seamen's Chaplain he had had ample opportunities for observation, and in his opinion 9-10ths of the cases Sunday labor on board ship was unnecessary. The petitioners talked about thousands of coolies being thrown out of work one day a week. The Dock Company employed 2,000 coolies, and for Sunday labor paid the ironworkers double. Those men always took a day off after working overtime, and were as anxious for the holiday as any European. The cargo coolies were paid by the ton, so that they would lose nothing by missing a day a week of cargo work. On the day I forwarded a copy of my said letter to the honorable the Acting Colonial

Paragraph 19 of the petition stated that all coasting boats carried a commodore and staff, whereas he knew for a fact that the Indo-China boats, Doneliss's and China and Manila steamers did not. He was confident that the measure would become law at the time originally fixed—next Sunday.

Mr. Cheong Lok Yu, the agent of the China Merchants, was next visited. He admitted that the new Ordinance would not greatly affect the Company's boats—they very often paid for a Customs permit to work on Sundays at Canton—but the poorer classes, the cargo-coolies, would suffer. They only earned about 20 or 30 cents a day, and if they were prevented from working on Sundays they and their families would suffer. The China Merchants S. N. Co. did not want Sunday cargo-working stopped, especially as their officers had nothing to do with it, a commodore being carried.

Mr. Reeves, of More and Selmond's store, came next. He said he signed the petition for the firm, also signed it on my own account. What Oh! because a lot of others did, I suppose. My chief reason was that I think every man should be free to work or not, as he likes. I'm afraid every day, and as far as I can see the cargo-working affects officers very little.

Mr. J. R. Michael, a Hebrew and a share broker, said—I signed the petition because the Bill was hurried through the Council without due consideration. My only interest in the matter is that it is a question affecting the prosperity of Hongkong; I am not opposed to the principle of the Ordinance. Yes, my Sunday is on a Saturday, but I work just the same.

Mr. Lang, tailor, was very eloquent. He said—I consider it is class legislation, and I am in favor of either the entire suspension of Sunday labor or else no restriction at all. The officers are only a small body, and the thing could be done without any Ordinance at all. Public opinion compels me to close my shop, but it doesn't make the Chinese tailors close theirs; if there is to be any restraint imposed let it be extended to everybody. I shall not be affected by the new law at all, but I am opposed to it.

Mr. J. D. Humphreys, who signed for Watson and Co., said that he signed simply to get the operation of the Bill suspended for two months pending fuller consideration. He was not opposed to the principle—it wouldn't affect his concern—but it should be considered more fully than it was.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., said that as he drew the petition up tonight fairly taken as a statement of his opinion. Briefly he thought that it was purely a practical question. He personally never worked on Sundays, on religious or economical grounds, but as a question of governing a heterogeneous community like this on the same lines, restricting, for the sake of 6,000 Europeans, the livelihood of 400,000 Chinese who knew nothing of a religious or an economical Sunday, and who had been allowed for 50 years to pursue their labors unrestrained, he thought the Ordinance was unwarrantable interference. If the officers did not want to work on Sundays let them refuse, and test the matter in Court. He thought they were entitled to do so, in point of law.

The Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Commander Hastings, R.N., did not see why the opium merchants opposed the Ordinance. It would make no difference whatever to them. Mr. J. S. Moses, who signed the petition on behalf of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co., opium importers, said—I am against any legislation that hampers the trade of the port. This will interfere with the Chinese business. Indirectly it will affect us, too; we shall not be able to ship opium on Sunday, as at present!

A dentist, several English brokers, a stationer, and other representative signatories refused to unbosom themselves, but the foregoing will show on what shadowy foundations the petition

Secretary, the receipt of which on 17th instant he acknowledged verbally.

Your obedient servant,

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

SHARES IN COMPANIES—PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

His Excellency Major General G. D. Barker, C.B., the Officer Administering the Government.

DEAR GENERAL BARKER,—I have been pushed with my own and other work, and the Council of the Stockbrokers Association has been unable through press of business in and out of Court to draw up the ordinance which the Brokers would propose.

I venture to offer the following remarks on the ordinance now before the Council.

On 1st July "Anderson" sells 100 Dock shares, and gives the numbers thereof, to Brown at 100 per cent. premium, deliver, 25th September.

"Brown" afterwards sells the same 100 Dock shares to "Campbell" at 105 premium also deliver 25th September.

"Campbell" later on sells same 100 Dock share to "Dickson" at 107 premium, also deliver 25th September.

"Dickson" subsequently sells the same 100 Dock shares to "Evans," "Evans" sells to "Fraser," and "Fraser" sells to "Graham," and so on, the numbers of shares being given in the contracts on each occasion.

All goes well until the beginning of August when "Brown" through unforeseen causes gets into difficulties and his position becomes critical. "Anderson" knows this, but having sold his property and ear-marked it, he has to look on patiently until the 25th September, on which date "Brown" is unable to fulfil his part of the contract, and if the market has declined "Anderson" is to suffer the loss and claim upon "Brown's" bankrupt estate.

"Campbell" cannot get delivery of the 100 shares he purchased from "Brown" and therefore cannot deliver to "Dickson." "Dickson" cannot deliver to "Evans," and so on, the result being injustice, litigation, and in many cases serious loss to perfectly innocent men through no fault of their own.

I may give a further illustration of how unjustly this act would work if brought into law. The same persons as above mentioned had entered into contracts with each other for the 100 Dock shares in question, and through some cause or other "Anderson's" account with his bankers got out of order. His 100 Dock shares are pledged to the Bank, the Bank has full control over them and power to sell them if "Anderson's" margin is not maintained. The Bank does sell his shares for cash, further margin not being forthcoming.

"Brown," "Campbell," and the others are unable to fulfil their contracts through "Anderson's" failure to deliver, the Bank for its own protection having sold "Anderson's" shares. The result of "Anderson's" failure to deliver to "Brown," "Brown" to others, and so on, is loss and litigation to perfectly innocent men.

"Anderson" may sell shares in a Bank or a Steamer Co. giving numbers which shares though this property stand in the name of "Brown" but through some accident to "Brown" the Bank or the Steamer Co. declares the said shares forfeited, they having a prior lien thereupon. Here again serious trouble, litigation and loss would ensue and innocent men would suffer.

In the case of the death of a large share operator there would be delay in the fulfilment of contracts and possibly worse, where the numbers of the shares are entered therein as in most instances considerable time elapses before Letters of Administration can be obtained, shares are not tendered on due date and the contract is broken.

I have been unable to go into the matter fully and thoroughly but I think the few illustrations I have given, and there must be many more, will show how very unjustly this act will affect perfectly innocent men.

There are many other arguments against the Bill and I am convinced that it will tend seriously to make men who are now honest become dishonest, in fact if numbers are not given in contracts and such contracts in the eye of the law are null and void, I say deliberately to dishonesty. The Chamber of Commerce by a majority has condemned it. It will not stop speculation nor will it curtail it. If Bulls and Bears cannot fight their own battles and take care of themselves, and it is absolutely necessary for Government to interfere in the matter and with the freedom of contract—which necessarily has not yet been proved—let contracts be limited to a period of one or two months, no numbers to be given. This would lessen if not eradicate the evil complained of.

I am strongly opposed to legislation in advance of the English acts and the further consideration of this measure may well and safely be left over until the return of our Governor, Colonial Secretary, and other Senior Government officials now absent from the colony.

I am,

Yours very truly,

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hongkong, 17th July, 1891.

A HINT TO DECK OFFICERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—The list of names attached to the petition against Sunday Rest for our profession should be posted up in every office berth. And you so pertinently asked in Saturday's issue—who were these people that have signed? Truly, Sir, I regret that, who call themselves the people of Hongkong. Not ten of them ever do a stroke of work on a Sunday, excepting a few unfortunate dispensers, who would be glad of Sunday rest themselves. I think the officers' course is very clear—for my part, at least, I had no hesitation in deciding what to do. These tradespeople who have so toadily petitioned that I should work 365 days a year have received a curt request to close my account, and my dealings henceforth, small though they are comparatively, will be with a firm that turned the petition-hunter into the street when he asked for this kind among the seafaring community will quickly bring a few of these trades-folk to their senses, and they will descend from their "bad eminence" with a sigh of regret that they were ever seduced into climbing there to oblige Messrs. Butterfield & Swire.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. BOYCOTTER.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1891.

THE SUNDAY LABOR BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—As a shipping clerk may I protest, through your columns, against the decision which the promoters of the petition against the above Ordinance attempted to bring to bear on our class. I personally refused to sign, and I know several others who did the same. Considering that we are even more anxious to be relieved from spending our Sundays chained to the desk than are the officers, I regarded the request that I would forego my own letters as a superb piece of impudence, though I had to swallow my wrath in my own interests. Once for all, Mr. Editor, let me assure you that the shipping clerks, as a body, regard the petition as a howling fraud, whilst some have gone so far as to designate it as a "howling lie."

A REVEREND TO HEATHENDOM.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1891.

FRANCE AND THE MEKONG VALLEY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—As a set-off against French schemes and intrigues in the Mekong valley (concerning which you lately favoured us with a leading article) it may perhaps interest you and your readers to learn that the Siamese Government have despatched three Royal Princes to administer the affairs of the provinces situated in that neighbourhood; that the gentlemen in question have received a thorough English education; speak our language as fluently as ourselves, and are looked upon in Siam as three of the smartest men in Government employ.

The provinces entrusted to their care consist of all those along the lower Mekong, extending from the Great Lakes on the south, to Bassac on the east; all the provinces of which Korak (the great railway terminus) is the centre; and the northern provinces of Luang Prabang, where the French have a Vice Consulate.

Each Administrator, or Governor as they will be called, is to be given a free hand, and as they are all energetic and capable men we can be sure they will, in a short time, be able to give an excellent account of their work in these hitherto neglected districts.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

F. J.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1891.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

(At 22 per trip.)

Macao no longer stands where it did. It now goes back and lies.

We were to have a big show at Bella Vista to-day (26th) with a band, and sports, and drinks, and so on. It was as big a fraud as if a company had worked it. There were a few drinks, and plenty of sun, but nothing else.

Yesterday (Saturday) a senior captain hired Hing Kee's best turnout for a picnic. Coming home at night, the caballeria wanted to show how he could drive. The noble Portuguese insisted, fired the *mafoes* off the box, and the officer was "awful far from being able." By and by, coming along the Praya Grande, the team bolted, struck a lamp post, cannoned against a tree, and the whole caravan was sprinkled about the town in little bits, mixed up with fragments of senhoria, horseflesh, lamp, and other things. The permanent way was blocked for several hours, and one pony was killed outright. On Monday Hing Kee will commence legal proceedings to recover damages. The man who chartered the turnout wants to say that the steering gear was out of order; but it will not do. A competent Chinese driver was provided, and if that arrangement was varied it was at charterer's risk.

We had some 120 visitors from Hongkong to-day in the *Hong-ma*. It is a pity these excursions cannot be encouraged a little. If the Steamboat people would make definite arrangements with some caterer here, there would be less profanity, and perhaps one or two might sometimes venture on a second visit. At present nobody does, except for some special object of private interest—to see a friend, or to escape a creditor.

The silk factory is now working very well indeed, which is the more satisfactory considering that the whole of the plant came out this year, and that the first set of hands, old style Canton silk workers, refused to understand the new set of young Macao girls had to be obtained and taught. It is not a little remarkable to see a building full of Chinese girls sitting at their looms just as if they were Lancashire lasses born to the trade. Everything goes so smoothly now that the manager, Mr. Lawson, will soon be returning to England.

CHEFOO.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

July 17th.

A murder of an unusually shocking nature was perpetrated on the 17th instant, the scene of the tragedy being the highway that leads through the past between the lofty range of hills that skirt the southern background of Chefoo. It appears that the wife of a cargo-cooler, who finds employment on the Customs jetty, had occasion a few days since to send in to her husband some clean clothes and one hundred *cash*. She commissioned her son to perform the errand, and the boy, who was little more than a child, set out upon the journey from his native village wholly unconscious of the terrible fate that awaited him.

The boy had not gone far when he was overtaken by his uncle, who having his progress demanded from him the hundred *cash*. Evidently the poor lad must have refused to deliver up the money, for the enraged man, taking a large stone rushed upon his unfortunate nephew, and dealing him several violent blows upon the head stretched him lifeless on the highway. Possessing himself of the coveted hundred *cash* the wretched murderer absconded. He could not have travelled any distance, however, for he was arrested close to Chefoo the day before yesterday and at once sent off under escort to the Ninghai magistrate for trial.

The Rev. L. O. Warner, of the Church of England Mission, returned to Korea yesterday, after a stay here of some three weeks, during which time he officiated in the place of the Rev. Miles Greenwood, who was absent. Though Mr. Warner sojourned for but a brief while in our midst, the recollection of his earnest eloquence and the force and vigour of his denunciations, will remain bright and verdant with those members of the community who mortified their rebellious spirits by going to hear his clever discourses. Verily he was a second Daniel come to judgment. The soul-stirring energy and rhetorical brilliancy of his sermons attracted large congregations—as congregations go in our ports, where the backsliding male especially is woefully unorthodox in his observance of the Sabbath day. The odour of sanctity is still strong in the land, but unless we have another such visitation shortly, I fear that ere many days have sped we shall be as much in need of regeneration as we were three weeks ago, before the advent of Mr. Warner, who, though he spared us not, has gained many warm and sincere admirers in Chefoo.—M. C. Daily News.

CHUNGKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Things are rather quiet here at present. We seem in serious danger of losing our reputation as a riot port. Not that we should regret it very much, however. The disturbances down the river are of course pretty generally known by the people here and it would be strange if there were not some who should wish to emulate their brethren there; but up to this time there has been nothing beyond a somewhat noticeable increase in lawless talk. No placards have been posted, and the officials keep such an active watch that an offender would be likely to be caught in the attempt. The *Kolao* had is said not to be numerous here, but quite numerous in the capital of the province. The Taoist has shown himself so far a papable and worthy official. He is only

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filling a vacancy till the regular appointee shall arrive, but naturally desires to make a creditable record. It is reported that one named Li, said to have been a former minister to Japan, has been appointed, but is not expected to arrive under several months.

Your readers will already have learned that our worthy Customs officers are no longer compelled to sit and suck their thumbs waiting for something to turn up. It is now nearly three weeks since the first boat passed the foreign Customs outward-bound. That broke thrice, as soon as a break was made several more quickly followed. The quantity of goods exported is not great, but some articles like musk and white wax are of considerable value. Many will be curious to hear how the deadlock between the Taoist and the merchants was broken. Neither side admits having yielded, but the result may probably be called a compromise, though we do not fully know the actual state of the case. On the one hand the Taoist appears not to have lost face, and on the other the merchants claim the case is to have another hearing when British influence can be brought to bear on Peking. Probably most will agree that this hope, in view of the eminently deliberate action of Her Majesty's Representative in Peking, is likely to prove a delusion and a snare.

We should not omit to mention a rising at Wansheng, a city about half way between here and Ichang, between two and three weeks ago. It seemed not to be directed against the missionaries there, but against the authorities. The natives call it an "insurance" against the government and attribute it to the *Kolao* Hui.

The rioters began by cutting down the telegraph poles, thinking to cut off wire connection. But it chanced that they cut the poles below the city and the magistrate was able to telegraph to Chungking and had soldiers down in three days. Before their arrival, however, the disturbance had been quelled. Several leaders have been arrested and beheaded. The rioters seem to have made their plans poorly and to have been met by commendable activity on the part of the officials.—M. C. Daily News.

WUCHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

July 16th.

The Viceroy's educational schemes have all been advanced steps. There are three separate departments widely differing—Chinese, semi-Chinese, and foreign. College of the Two Lakes (Hupoh and Hunan) is rapidly assuming an air of completion, and with its circuit of some three-quarters of a mile, its numerous students quarters and its fine lecture hall, is quite a feature of the southern half of the city. The entrance examination was held a month or so ago, the subjects being the ordinary branches of classical learning including mathematics. In the latter branch some twenty foundation scholarships of six taels a month and rooms, and five and twenty non-resident exhibitions of three taels a month were awarded.

A few days after the regular college course is to commence next month. It is understood that the new College will follow the ordinary rules and that its Professors are to be an examining and not a teaching body. Mathematics is assigned to the well known Mr. Hwa, of Shanghai.

The Survey Office has hitherto only made preparations for what it intends to do after the hot weather. A corps of twenty students has been selected who are to be trained in surveying and measuring methods and in finding longitude and latitude. In the present state of China it is obvious that these methods will be necessary as more rules of thumb, but under the able superintendency of Mr. Su, a thoroughly competent native mathematician, we may hope that some of these men will be awakened into real interest. The survey of the Province probably commences in September.

The most noteworthy development, however, is the opening of the school of mines. The authorities have at last seen their way to utilising the high technical accomplishments of their foreign staff in training a body of young men in chemical analysis. The fire-brick furnace chimney for nearly a year been a prominent feature of the neighbourhood, and the parade ground of the foreign officers who heard the rattling of the foreign artillery and the foreign rifles in practice there, and then see this province reeking with the gases of iron, manganese, coppers, and coals torn from the bowels of the outraged Chinese earth, may well have groaned with the conviction that their Celestial land has gone implacably mad with the outlandish fashions of countries beyond the four seas. Their groans, however, are stifled when they find a new opening for their sons in life. At the beginning of this month a start was made with twenty-two students who have residence, lecture hall, and a roomy—if architecturally unsimultaneous—laboratory with tables and drawers. The teaching staff is composed of Professor H. H. Robinson, M.A., F.C.S., of Magdalen College, Oxford, and Mr. F. B. Parkinson, Assoc. Royal School of Mines. The former of these gentlemen came out originally to the contemplated Imperial College at Canton, a scheme which on the removal of H.E. Chang Lih-tung was projected in vague outline on to the plane of this province and is now only taking definite shape. The school is fitted out with a good set of materials and instruments, though for a smaller number of pupils than those now entered. The Viceroy has thus secured the most thorough practical and theoretical instruction and we congratulate the city and province on this new development of its mineral wealth. Of course the scheme is only on its trial; all pupils enter on a month's probation, and the difficulty will be to find those who are competent to receive the necessarily technical and English lectures.

A sufficient knowledge of English is not abundant in this inland province. It is to be hoped that by some means similar to those of the Technical Schools at Tientsin a first course in English and Arithmetic can be secured, so that a thorough chemical course of real value may be taken by students who can appreciate it and prove the efficient assessors of the future.

The initial works for the Ta Ye railway are being pushed on. The road has been surveyed, the station at the Iron Mine end and the embankment are being rapidly constructed. It is rumoured that foreign wheelbarrows are more appreciated by the country folk for private use than for government public works, and that the stakes for making the road prove too useful to be allowed to remain in situ; but these are trifling misadventures which might be expected, and their humour relieves the monotony of country life in summer. The rails are to be near way out, and it is hoped that the sixty *li* to near Huangshing will be complete and ready for use in less than twelve months. The iron for whose transport the railway is being erected is known to be exceedingly rich.—N. C. Daily News.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tientsin, July 13th.

To-morrow will be the day for the declaration of the dividend of the Taku Tug and Lighter Company. It was reported 8 per cent. would be declared, but now it is currently reported that 7 per cent. will be the figure. This, with other little matters, has sent the shares down to Tael 50.

At last the Decree has been issued, and reached here at the end of last week, for the extension of the railway line from Liu Hai towards Shai-bal-kuan. For the present only sixty *li* is to be laid, and it is to be a government line. It is to join the Tan San line. Messrs. Chen and Li are to be the chiefs. Mr. Li Hany-chang has been pleased to appoint Mr. W. N. Petrick to the chief supervision of this line.

From Shing-king, south-easterly Newchwang, in Tuen-hwa hain, a sample of clay has been forwarded. It is of a greyish colour, having a very peculiar odour, and resembling mineral wax. The natives use it for wicks in their oil lamps, and it burns well. Besides this clay, specimens of iron ore have been forwarded, of very superior quality, being almost all iron, also some rich quartz containing gold, which runs through the quartz like threads, and nuggets have been found weighing as much as three ounces. The sand also contains a quantity of gold dust. Another sample of dark brown soil emits a strong oily odour, and petroleum is reported to exist there. Very fine specimens of soft and hard coal have also been forwarded. These samples have all been forwarded to Peking, and no doubt I shall hear more about this when Mr. John Pringle, an expert, gets there. The specimens of coal from the north-west of Newchwang, especially those from Liang-yang district, are said to be of excellent quality.

The German bishop left here for Shantung, accompanied by two priests. Before leaving they had an interview with Li Hing-chang.

To-morrow our French residents will celebrate the 14th July with great pomp. All nationalities have been cordially invited to join in the festivities.—Mercury.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

26th July, 1891.—At 4 p.m.

sold to the Chinese. Another sample of dark oil was obtained from the same source. The oil emits a strong oily odour, and petroleum is reported to exist there. Very fine specimens of soft and hard coal have also been forwarded. These samples have all been forwarded to Peking, and no doubt I shall hear more about this when Mr. John Pringle, an expert, gets there. The specimens of coal from the northwest of Newchwang, especially those from Liaoning district, are said to be of excellent quality.

The German Bishop left here for Shanghai accompanied by two priests. Before leaving they had an interview with Li Hung-chang.

To-morrow our French residents will celebrate the 14th July with great pomp. All nationalities have been cordially invited to join in the festivities.—*Mercury.*

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